

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AS-01 DHA-02 AID-05 IO-13
AGRE-00 EB-07 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ORM-02 /100 W
-----100931 081414Z /42

R 080915Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8301
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1022

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: SHUM SPOP SEDU SOCI LA EAID
SUBJECT: LPDR ORPHANAGE

REF: VIENTIANE 0484

1. WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) REPRESENTATIVE IN THE
LPDR TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE WFP WILL GIVE \$2 MILLION IN
FOOD ASSISTANCE OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS TO THE
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR'S ORPHANAGE, REPORTED REFTEL.
THE FUNDS WILL PROVIDE FOOD FOR ABOUT 1,000 WORKERS
WHO ARE BUILDING THE ISOLATED CAMP SITE AND THEIR
FAMILIES ESTIMATED AT AN AVERAGE OF FOUR MEMBERS.
FOOD WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR AN ESTIMATED ORPHAN
POPULATION OF 1,000 DURING THE FIRST TWO YEARS AND
ABOUT 100 ADULT SUPERVISORS, LATER TO BE EXPANDED TO
2,000 ORPHANS.

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2. UNDP ACTING RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TOLD EMBOFF
AFTER HE VISITED THE CAMP SITE JUNE 22 THAT THE UNDP
WOULD NOT RECOMMEND EXPENDITURES OF DEVELOPMENTAL
FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT BECAUSE OF QUESTIONS IT HAD
ABOUT THE PROJECT'S CONCEPTION. HE SAID HE WOULD
SUPPORT HUMANITARIAN AID SUCH AS THE WFP FOOD ASSIS-

TANCE, HOWEVER. RESREP SAID A MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL TOLD HIM THAT IN ADDITION TO ORPHANS, DESTITUTE FAMILIES, URCHINS, AND CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS WERE SENT TO RE-EDUCATION CAMPS WOULD POPULATE THE "ORPHANAGE" CAMP.

3. A UNICEF OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT HIS ORGANIZATION WOULD ALSO ONLY CONSIDER HUMANITARIAN AND NOT DEVELOPMENTAL AID FOR THE PROJECT. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS CARVING THE CAMP SITE OUT OF A MALARIA INFESTED FOREST IN A HILLY REGION UNSUITABLE FOR PERMANENT RICE CULTIVATION ALTHOUGH IT EXPECTED THE ORPHANAGE TO SOON BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION. HE DOUBTED WHETHER SUFFICIENT WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES COULD BE PROVIDED ON THAT LOCATION. FURTHERMORE, HE FEARED THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ORPHANAGE FOR 2,000 CHILDREN IN A SOCIETY WHERE THERE ARE PRESENTLY NO INSTITUTIONALIZED ORPHANS WOULD SIMPLY "CREATE" ORPHANS SINCE POORER FAMILIES WOULD SEND THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF A NORMAL FAMILY ENVIRONMENT TO THE ILL-DESIGNED CAMP. NONETHELESS, HE BELIEVED THAT BECAUSE THE LPDR WAS DETERMINED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, SOME INTERNATIONAL AID WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ALLEVIATE THE POSSIBLE SUFFERING OF CHILDREN CAUSED BY POOR GOVERNMENT PLANNING.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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